

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DOHA 00572 101018Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 EPG-02 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04

USIA-15 OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-10

PA-02 PRS-01 /130 W

-----110708Z 111826 /11

R 101005Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY DOHA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2580

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

UNCLAS DOHA 0572

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, OAPEC, QA

SUBJECT: QATARI OIL MINISTER DISCUSSES RESULTS OF OAPEC
CONFERENCE

REF: DOHA 561

1. IN ADDITION TO HIS STATEMENTS ON A PLANNED (OR NOT
PLANNED) OIL INCREASE (REFTEL) GOQ MINISTER OF FINANCE AND
PETROLEUM, SHAYKH ABDUL AZIZ BIN KHALIFA AL THANI, RECENT
CHAIRMAN OF THE OAPEC MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE HELD IN CAIRO
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MAY 3-4, OFFERED THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON THE OAPEC MEETING
AND OIL AFFAIRS IN GENERAL DURING A MAY 4 INTERVIEW. HIS
REMARKS WERE REPORTED BY QATAR NEWS AGENCY AND FULL DETAILS
ARE AVAILABLE FROM FBIS.

A. OIL PRICING: OAPEC DID NOT DISCUSS DEVELOPING A UNIFIED
ARAB POSITION ON PRICES FOR THE UPCOMING OPEC MEETINGS.

OIL PRICES ARE NOT THE PRIME CAUSE OF INFLATION. THE PRESENT TWO TIER PRICING SYSTEM IS NOT THE CAUSE OF DISAGREEMENT IN OPEC BUT IT WOULD BE BETTER IF THERE WERE ONE PRICE.

B. FOOD: ARAB COUNTRIES SHOULD DEVELOP A STRATEGY TO PREVENT THEMSELVES FROM BECOMING OVERLY DEPENDENT ON NON-ARAB FOOD PRODUCING NATIONS. JOINT VENTURES SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT IN COLLABORATION WITH EGYPT AND SUDAN.

C. OAPEC FIVE YEAR PLAN: THE PLAN, ENDING IN 1982, WAS APPROVED AND THE OAPEC SECRETARIAT WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR EXAMINING SPECIFIC PROJECTS TO BE REFERRED TO THE NEXT SESSION OF THE OAPEC MINISTERIAL COUNCIL NEXT DECEMBER IN KUWAIT. PROJECTS TO BE STUDIED INCLUDE: THE MANUFACTURE OF INDUSTRIAL PROTEIN FROM OIL, REFINERY PROJECTS, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ARAB OIL INSTITUTE TO TRAIN ARAB PERSONNEL AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DRY DOCK IN THE MEDITERRANEAN.

D. MARKETING: OPEC IS INTERESTED IN USING WESTERN TECHNOLOGY TO ESTABLISH AN OIL REFINING INDUSTRY RATHER THAN IN MARKETING CRUDE.

E. OIL RESERVES: THERE SHOULD BE A BALANCED POLICY TO PREVENT EARLY DEPLETION.

2. QATARI DAILY AL-ARAB ALSO REPORTED THAT OAPEC HAD DECIDED TO HOLD AN ARAB ENERGY CONFERENCE IN EARLY 1979 TO DISCUSS ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES.

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